

Scouting About

News from the South African Scout Association.

www.scouting.org.za



SCOUTS
South Africa

Member of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement

0860SCOUTS

Winter 2014

SCOUT WINS 'SURVIVE-IT' ON SABC 2'S HECTIC NINE-9

15 year old Claude Schippers, from 1st Bellville South Scouts Group was announced the winner of Hectic Nine 9's Survive It 2014!

This year, the reality survival competition was one of the toughest seasons yet where the Scouts and the presenters overcame freezing temperatures, physical challenges and hunger in the Matroosberg. Viewers of TV's popular kid's show Hectic Nine-9 were able to see their favourite presenters rough it out against 10 Scouts from the Western Cape.

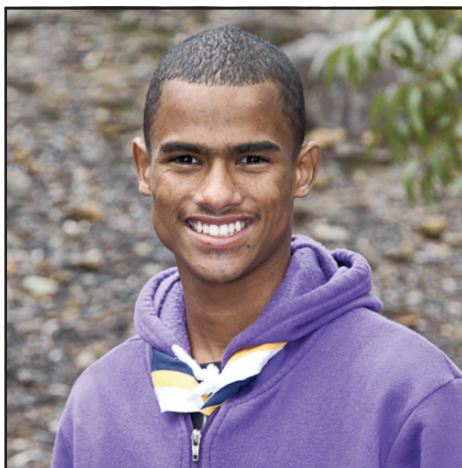
Just like Mark Burnett's Survivor, contestants were put to task in tough outdoor situations and voted each other out one by one as the show progressed; the ultimate "Survive-It" survivor was voted for by the viewers of the show and announced on Friday 30 May 2014. Claude Schippers was the last Scout remaining and went up against popular presenter Anomsa. For the third year running the Scout took the title of Survive it winner!

We had a chat with Claude and asked him why he signed up for the show. "Ever since I saw the show on Hectic Nine 9, I wanted to try it and push my limits. It was a dream of mine, so when I got the opportunity I was determined to succeed!"

When asked how he pulled it off, Claude smiled and simply replied: "I just did my best. It was very hard. It was very cold and I especially struggled with the food. Having to eat dry rice and beans was not nice. But I thought I am a Scout and I can do this. When I got into the top four I could not believe it. I didn't think I would win, but when they told

me I was in the final I was so excited! It feels great to be a winner!"

"Claude is an adventurer and a very kind, dedicated and humble Scout. We are so proud of him!" says Claude's 1st Bellville South Scouter Carmielah Achmat. "Claude is respected by all and is seen as an example by younger Scouts." This is something his primary and high school principals agree on as they put his name and the number to vote for on all the boards in the school in a bid to solicit votes for the Scout.



When asked what a Scout should do

if they want to win next year he giggles and says: "They must just do their best, practice their Scouting skills and be prepared!"

SCOUTS South Africa is an independent, non-profit educational movement dedicated to the development of young people in achieving their full potential as individuals and responsible citizens. Central in this programme is a continuous transference of values such as honesty, loyalty, responsibility, respect; all aimed at governing individual behaviour and the development of strong leadership skills that will equip members to be of service to others and to their communities.

For more information about SCOUTS South Africa: www.scouts.org.za, find us on facebook at: www.facebook.com/SAScout or send an email to PR Manager Natasha Kayle on pr@scouting.org.za.

CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK SCOUTS



Neville Luke – WesternCape
Ryan Burns – Western Cape
Zaiyd Achmat – Western Cape
Matthew Boynton – Western Cape
Christopher Hodgson – Gauteng
Sabin Willson – Gauteng
Vaughn Mare – Gauteng
Simon de Wet – Western Cape
Kyle Durr – Western Cape
Michelle Scott – Western Cape
Christopher Lea – Western Cape
James Blyth – Western Cape

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL APPOINTMENTS

SCOUTS South Africa is glad to announce the following appointments.

Dr Alison Griffiths as National Channel coordinator NGOs and Churches.

Mrs Lucy Magagula as Regional Commissioner: Mpumalanga Region.

Mr Paddy Milner as Regional Commissioner: Western Cape Region.

Mr Lucky Bembe, Mr Quintin Combrink and **Mrs Joy Hutchinson** who will form the SCOUTS South Africa International Committee.

be prepared....

DAVE OSMOND RESIGNS AS CHAIR OF KONTIKI after a decade of fun and inspiration!

For the past ten years Kontiki Gauteng was chaired by SA Scouting legend Dave Osmond. Now that he is serving our Scouting community as the Gauteng Regional Commissioner he is stepping down and handing the helm over to a new leader. Kontiki Gauteng is organised annually and is open for Scouts and Girl guides nationwide.

"It has been a tremendous privilege and lots of fun," says Dave when asked about his Kontiki experience. "Ten years ago I joined the Kontiki team as camp chief. After five years I was appointed chair by the former Gauteng commissioner – now Chief Commissioner – Dr Brendon Hausberger."

Like a proud dad Dave reminisces over the past years and successes of Kontiki. "When I was given the position Mr Hausberger asked me to please try to move the Kontiki venue to one of our beautiful Scouting premises. Three years ago my Kontiki team and I were able to achieve just that by organising it at Arrow Park. It was a huge milestone for Kontiki and has made it what it is today. Another thing I am very proud of is the buddy system and sponsoring of development groups. This means that as the Kontiki organisers we annually sponsor development groups to be at the event. Not necessarily on a raft but they can partake in the fringe and make new friends. To promote equal opportunities for all our Scouts we have a buddy system whereby the more fortunate groups that have the means to build a raft include members of less



fortunate groups in their team. They then receive bonus points. This system also opens the door for anybody to win."

All over the country Scouts engage in a number of events. However Kontiki is known to be one of the favourites. What makes Kontiki so special? Dave chuckled when asked and said "Even though it is a competition, the emphasis always lies on having fun. If you don't have the equipment to build a raft, you can still have fun and join in the fringe activities or just come and camp at the venue and enjoy the ambiance."

After ten years there must be a moment that stands out as Dave's most memorable experience. "I have had many memorable moments in ten years but there is one I will never forget. It happened this year at 8 o'clock on the Saturday evening. I was walking around the camp site, stopped to

look and listen to the Kontiki buzz around me. Children were running around with no fear for their safety, youths were engaged in conversations and the warmth of true Scouting camaraderie filled the night air. Given that the theme was "Going Green", people had brought solar lights and their gentle glow gave the camp a peaceful radiance. This glow and ambiance reminded me of the freedom, integration and interaction with others that Scouting provides. Isn't that just awesome?"

Even though the new Kontiki chair has not yet been appointed he hopes that in the future more development troops and buddy teams will be participating. "If we can get it right that anybody – from any Troop – can win the event, have fun and integrate, then we are hitting the nail on the head. This would mean that the skills all the kids have acquired will be enabling them to win the competition. That skills transference is what is key for their own personal success in life."

Dave started his Scouting career as a Cub in 1965 where he obtained his Leaping Wolf. In 1973 he received his Springbok and in 1974 the Chief Scouts Award. "After 38 years I can confidently say that Scouting has given me a solid foundation and has kept me grounded as a person and definitely as an adult leader. I find that our Scout Promise and Laws are a tremendous value system and a good way to live one's life", says Dave Osmond the Regional Commissioner for Gauteng.

BADEN-POWELL SAID . . .

"Every boy should learn to swim. I've known lots of fellows pick it up the first time they try, others take longer. I did myself – I couldn't at first get the hang of it. In my heart of hearts I really feared the water a bit, but one day, getting out of my depth, I found myself swimming quite easily. I had made too much of an effort and stiff struggle of it before – but I found the way was to take it slowly and calmly. I got to like the water, and swimming became easy."

So many of our exciting Scouting activities involve water, and because most of our Scouts can swim, because their families make it possible for them to learn at an early age, or their school has a bath where all the pupils have the opportunity to practice

swimming, we Scouters take it for granted that all our Scouts can swim. There is always that one fellow, because of the fear that B-P mentioned, or who has no access to a swimming bath, has never learned to swim. Scouters should discover this person, and before he or she gets out of their depth by being teased, or dared by one of their pals, should quietly take them in hand and without fuss make it possible for them to master the swimming skill and be water safe.

Without the Scoutcraft Swimmers badge, so many of our Scouting water activities can be missed. That Scout has to sit on the sidelines and watch the others have all the fun.

23rd WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

Kirara-hama – Japan – 2015



Initially it was thought that SCOUTS South Africa would be sending only two Jamboree Troops, a total of 72 Scouts, to the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in 2015. However, we have had an overwhelming response from Scouts

and Rangers from across the country, such that we have sufficient Youth Applicants to fill three Jamboree Troops, and a possible fourth Troop as well – a total of 136 youth applications in all have been received and to fill the fourth Troop requires 144!

Ideally we would like to give all Scouts and Rangers who have applied the opportunity to attend this magnificent once-in-a-lifetime event! But, we cannot take Scouts to

Japan without sufficient Adult Leaders and as such we have additional opportunities for more Jamboree Troop Scouters to join the Contingent.

Applications are invited from all Adult Leaders who are currently actively involved in a Scout Troop, hold a Troop Scouter, Assistant Troop Scouter or Group Scouter Warrant, have completed the required Adult Leader training and would like the opportunity to attend the Jamboree as an Adult Leader in a Jamboree Troop – the best way to experience the Jamboree as an adult!

The Closing Date for all Adult Jamboree Troop Scouter Applications has been re-opened and extended to Friday 25th July 2014.

The Adult Application Form can be downloaded from the SCOUTS South Africa website.

THE CREED OF THE SOIL CONSERVATIONIST



Woodcut by Thomas Bewick, 1753 - 1828

that man himself owes earth a debt of respect and fealty.

I believe that whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap, that he who manages his fields, pastures, woodlands and streams with respect and wisdom, shall reap the bountiful harvest and so shall his descendants; while he who uses them selfishly, thinking of his own immediate gain, shall bring grief his land, himself, and his children's children.

As a soil conservationist, I believe God created the earth by His divine processes for the benefit of man – not one man, nor one generation, but mankind for all time.

I believe the Almighty gave man an inheritance of the earth, not to be hoarded as a miser guards his treasure, but to be used with wisdom and in the fullest for the perpetual benefit of all men.

I believe that all mankind, regardless of race or creed are entitled to a fair and equitable share of the earth's bounty commensurate with their own efforts. But in so believing, I hold the irrevocable conviction

Holding these beliefs to be true I dedicate myself to the task of helping my fellow man realize their personal responsibility in conserving the earth for the generations which follow them. To this end I shall devote my best knowledge in guiding the efforts of those who till the soil so that the land which nurtures us shall be fruitful without end.

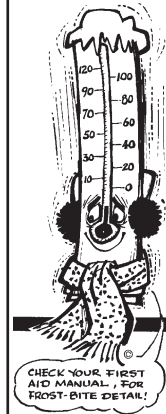
For truly, the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, but the responsibility for it's stewardship is vested in man.

Veld Lore



WHEN IS IT COLD?

Your thermometer can be a liar!



Is your Troop a Summer Only Camper or Hiker? In our "Sunny South Africa", even winter can be a great time for these outdoor activities, but we must be "Prepared" for that sudden cold snap. Be prepared for "Wind Chill" when the temperature can suddenly dip well below what the thermometer reads. With a 15 K per hour wind the temp. can be 10 degrees lower than the thermometer indicates. On bare flesh this can be as effective as

double that and you stand the chance of being "Frost-bitten". What is Frost Bite? Well that is when the exposed, or not well protected extremities of the human body freezes. Blood supply is cut off and if not quickly remedied that portion can die.

First Aid is a slow process; don't try to warm the affected area quickly. Cover the frozen part with woolen clothing, put on extra clothing to keep the rest of the body warm and seek shelter immediately. Warm water can be used to thaw out the part, never hot water. Frost-bitten feet can be serious. Remove the boots, wrap the feet warmly, and carry the victim to a doctor.

As a child who grew up in and around Johannesburg, I vividly recall my ears stinging when I came in from playing outside in winter. One can easily tell an active Highveld raised child from a coastal raised child. Feel along the top edge of that person's ear. The Highveld person will have a rough edge where small bits of his ear have fallen off from frost bite.

FIRE MAKING WITHOUT MATCHES

Make your own Fireboard

Going through a 1963 Veld Lore, I read an article on how to light a fire using the timeless method of using a fireboard, hardwood spindle and bow. It certainly does work. Two of us Scouts at a Jamborally, when I was all of 15 years old, were given the task of lighting the closing Campfire with this method. We had about two days to build the device and practice, practice and practice some more. We succeeded, but it looks so easy when Bear Grylls does it on TV. I bet they only show the time he gets it right.

What you need: The fireboard can be a piece of pine (softwood). The spindle and holder are hardwood. Make sure the bow stick is strong but can be bent. The bow string in the illustration says bootlace, maybe today's heavy tackie laces would work, but we used a strip of leather (riempie).

With your knife, round the ends of the spindle, and cut a depression in the centre of the holder. Start a hole in the fireboard about 1 to 1.5 cm from the edge. Now, with the bow, drill in this hole until the bottom of the spindle is blunt and the hole is worn away to the same size diameter as the spindle. Now cut a V-shaped notch to the centre of the hole as shown in the sketch, undercutting the bottom part of the V to make it easier for

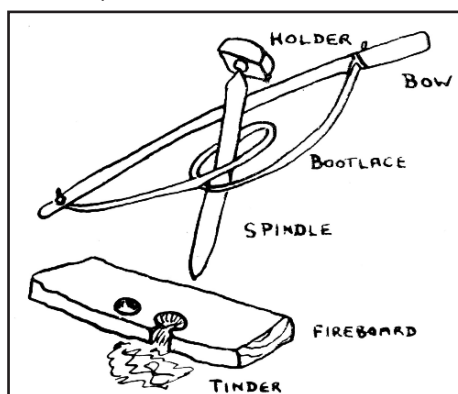
the glowing powder to fall through on to the tinder.

Arrange your tinder of teased sisal string and a piece of steel wool for greater effect. Place a small amount of charcoal or sand in the fireboard hole – this creates more friction.

Put a bit of oil or margarine in the hole of the holder to lubricate it. Kneeling, with your foot holding the fireboard in place and some hand and shoulder weight on the holder, go for it.

Even with this primitive method of fire lighting all Scouting's fire safety must be observed, especially when handling the tinder and blowing on it to get it aflame. Don't put your face too close to the glowing tinder.

I believe Australian Scouts claim they can get a fire going in 20 seconds. Can South Africans match this or even do it quicker?



ADULT AWARDS

All that time ago B-P wrote a book – the boys of the time picked it up and ran with it, but unfortunately they soon got themselves into trouble – why would a bunch of ragamuffins pitch a tent and make a fire in an apple orchard? At that time any boy in an apple orchard was there only for one thing. That's right, to steal apples. Farmers and the other country folk could not understand this new thinking.

Even though B-P produced the book to assist other youth organizations to fill their own programme, he very soon realized that he must do something to control the bon-fire he had unknowingly lit among the youth of his country. He approached adults, of some standing, to come in and take charge of these milling bands of young boys and the Scout Movement came into being. If we study photos of these early adults they seem to be mostly older soldier types, dressed in military style uniform with riding breeches etc. I suppose being of the army, B-P realized an old military fellow would have the discipline to pass it on to his Scouts.

The years have slipped by and many, many thousands of adults have done their thing and today the Scout movement is the largest youth movement in the world.



At a recent Group function surprised APS Lynette Nash, of 1st St Croix Sea Scout Group, with her supportive husband, Dave, received her Medal of Merit after many years of dedicated service to the Cub Pack.

Reported to be thirty two million active Cubs, Scouts, Rovers and adults strong. How many of those are the adults that make it possible for boys and girls to enjoy the outdoor educational programme as envisaged by our founder?

Most of us only see and meet the adults that are part of our District, and maybe the Commissioners that are part of our Province. Our friends are the adults that are active in our own Group, uniformed and lay folk who keep the Scouting wheels turning, with activities, meetings and fund-raising etc. Are you aware of how long some of these folk have been doing their Scout job in your Group or District? What difficulties do they have in their lives while they do this work? They just keep sticking to it! Do these Scouters and Lay-folk need to be thanked for their services from time to time? SURE!

Scouting South Africa have an array of awards that can be presented, as a "Thank You", to these people. Long Service awards – Merit Awards – Certificates for those who have devoted just a little less time and effort to the Movement. Every year the Group Committee should look at their personnel and submit a recommendation for those who reach the requirements. What a surprise for the person who is kept in the dark as to the recommendation, when the medal or certificate is presented to him or her at some special occasion.

EE CAMPS DEVELOPING POSITIVE ATTITUDES AND SKILLS

For more than 100 years, Scouting has inspired millions of children and youths to make a difference in their communities and to respect and preserve the environment. One of the projects developed and run in South Africa are the Environmental Education Camps. Earlier this year we were able to start these camps again around the country with the support of the National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund. A new facilitator's manual, participant booklet and badge was developed and a group of facilitators trained.

These Environmental Education (EE) camps strive to develop skills and increase understanding and appreciation for how we as humans, with our own cultures and traditions, relate to our biophysical surroundings. The camps also include practising how to make informed decisions and how to develop and live by an outdoor behaviour code when it comes to protecting and conserving the quality of our environment. Furthermore these

camps will assist Scouts on their path to achieve the World Scout Environment Badge.

One of the first camps to be held was in the Mzintshane Location in the Eastern Cape. "We organised the camp in a very rural area and the skills learnt did not only provide the 42 Scouts, Scouter and community members with skills on how to care for their environment, but also empowered them with knowledge that can help them in their daily lives. This was the first of many camps that we will organise in rural areas of the Eastern Cape", said Lunga Nqini, EE Camp Facilitator for the Eastern Cape.

Over the past three months over 400 Scouts and Scouters attended EE Camps in KZN. EE Camp Facilitator Sizwe Mnikathi is very happy with the outcome. Whether the camps have left an impression on the participating Scouts is clear from the feedback reports. Joy Ngcobo from Ugu District Ifafa Junior Primary Troop said "These activities are important to my life

because they can help me, but if someone gets into trouble I can help him/her." Hloniphani Mzobe from Ugu District, Junior Primary Troop added "They are very important because they teach me about the wrong we do in my community. So that is why I want to make a change in my community."

CUB CHALLENGE 2014

**Yesterday
– Today –
Tomorrow**

All Packs are encouraged to participate in the 2014 Cub Challenge. Information and programmes can be obtained on Scouting South Africa Web Page or you can contact your Provincial Cub Commissioner for a hard copy. Your Cubs deserve the opportunity to participate in this National Challenge.

Contributions can be:

Posted to: The Editor, P.O. Box 1733, Port Elizabeth 6000

Faxed to: 041 585 8513

Email to: scout101@marinelitho.co.za

Editor: Colin Stretton - Tel: 041 585 1147

be prepared....